

Dear FCC,

I urge the Commission to approve the petitions put forth by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) which supports the restructuring of the Amateur Radio licensing scheme in the U.S. (RM-10867 through RM-10870)

Not only will it place the national Amateur service on par with the rest of the world (re: WRC '03, Article 25 modifications), but would also lure more people to the wonderful hobby and public service that is Amateur Radio.

I was once very opposed to the elimination of Morse Code requirements for certain license classes -- as I saw it, the "dumbing down" of Amateur Radio. However, my fears have proved unfounded.

Today, our more technologically advanced society allows people to communicate instantly like never before. Many of the youngest Americans don't remember a world before instant electronic communication. But still, the magic of "ham" radio, especially HF communications, is available to all who wish to put forth effort to earn a license. While Morse Code is still used on the HF frequencies, I believe many young and middle aged people are "put off" by the prospect of learning Morse Code.

It is an antique mode of communication, and while it is still useful, many non-"hams" see it as antiquated.

The approval of the ARRL petitions could go a long way to ensuring Amateur Radio exists as a vital public service and wonderful hobby many years into the future.

Sincerely,
Morgan Palmer
Amateur Call: K5TVT

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Morgan Palmer</DIV>
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class=3Dred><CONTACT-EMAIL></CODE><FONT
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